

NASA Applied Sciences Program

Organizations Related to Public Health

The NASA Applied Sciences Program encourages teams and partnerships across public and private sectors, including national and regional organizations and associations. The following organizations are examples of national or regional associations related to Public Health.

(Note: This list is not exhaustive and is provided for reference and example only. The NASA Applied Sciences Program does not necessarily have established relationships with these organizations, and the Program does not imply endorsement of any organization on this list.)

❖ *American Public Health Organization (APHO):*

- **Location(s):** Washington, DC (HQ).
- **Mission Statement:** To be in the forefront of efforts to prevent disease and promote health.
- **Additional Info:** The American Public Health Association (APHA) is the oldest (operating for over 125 years) and largest organization of public health professionals in the world (representing more than 50,000 members from over 50 occupations of public health). APHA brings together researchers, health service providers, administrators, teachers, and other health workers in a unique, multidisciplinary environment of professional exchange, study, and action. They are concerned with a broad set of issues affecting personal and environmental health, including federal and state funding for health programs, pollution control, programs and policies related to chronic and infectious diseases, a smoke-free society, and professional education in public health. The organization actively serves the public, its members, and the public health profession through its scientific and practice programs, publications, annual meetings, awards program, educational services, and advocacy efforts.
- **Website:** <http://www.apha.org/>
- **Contact Person:**
Mail: 800 I. Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-3710
Email: comments@alpha.org
Phone: (202) 777-APHA (2742)
Fax: (202) 777-2532

❖ *National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO):*

- **Location(s):** Washington, DC (HQ).
- **Mission Statement:** To support efforts that protect and improve the health of all people and all communities by promoting national policy, developing resources and programs, seeking health equity and supporting effective local public health practice and systems.
- **Additional Info:** NACCHO advocates for comprehensive strategies that attend to the root determinants of health, such as standard of living, quality of housing and education, and conditions associated with the foundations of society. They recognize the interconnectedness of the physical environment and ecosystem to the economic, social, and spiritual health of a community, and support activities that promote this comprehensive view. In addition, NACCHO supports community education about public policy measures beyond reducing specific diseases, such as those that eliminate inequality and prevent individuals from becoming disadvantaged, and advocates for open, active, community-wide participation in decision making aimed at the collective empowerment of communities. Major topics of interest include emergency preparedness

and response, environmental health, health promotion and disease prevention, infection disease, and public health infrastructure and systems.

- **Website:** <http://www.naccho.org/>
- **Contact Person:**
Mail: 1100 17th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036
Phone: (202) 783-5550
Fax: (202) 783-1583

❖ *American Cancer Society (ACS):*

- **Location(s):** Atlanta, GA (HQ), regional offices in all 50 states.
- **Mission Statement:** To eliminate cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service.
- **Additional Info:** The American Cancer Society was founded in 1913 by fifteen physicians in New York City. It is currently the largest source of private, not-for-profit cancer research funds in the US, second only to the federal government in total dollars spent. The research program consists of three components: extramural grants, intramural epidemiology and surveillance research, and the intramural behavioral research center.
- **Website:** <http://www.cancer.org/>
- **Contact Person:**
Phone: 1-800-ACS-2345

❖ *Institute for Biosecurity:*

- **Location(s):** St. Louis, MO (HQ).
- **Mission Statement:** To provide public health and emergency response professionals with the education needed for preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation of emerging public health threats, and for the Institute to conduct research that will contribute to the development of national policies to address these threats.
- **Additional Info:** The Institute for Biosecurity (formerly the Center for the Study of Bioterrorism and Emerging Infections) at Saint Louis University School of Public Health was established in 2000 with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. While the focus of the Institute is emerging infections, the Institute also develops educational material that covers management of the consequences of chemical, radiological, and nuclear terrorism. The objectives of the degree are: to educate professionals about the history and contemporary threats of terrorism and emerging infectious diseases; to teach the skills required to assess the risks and develop measures to manage the consequences of a crisis; and to develop skills that allow for effective communication between professionals and the public about these threats.
- **Website:** <http://www.slu.edu/colleges/sph/csbei/index.html>
- **Contact Person:** William Stanhope, Associate Director of Special Projects
Mail: Saint Louis University, School of Public Health, 3545 Lafayette, St. Louis, MO 63104
Email: stanhowd@slu.edu
Phone: (314) 977-8257
Fax: (314) 977-8150

❖ *Association for Community Health Improvement (ACHI):*

- **Location(s):** San Francisco, CA (HQ).
- **Mission Statement:** To strengthen community health through education, peer networking and the dissemination of practical tools.

- **Additional Info:** ACHI was created in 2002 as a successor to three national community health initiatives that were approaching the end of their grant cycles or were otherwise ripe for renewal and growth: the Community Care Network Demonstration Program, ACT National Outcomes Network, and Coalition for Healthier Cities and Communities. The Association is committed to its vision of community leaders everywhere creating health where people live, work, and play. These leaders include paid organization staff, community volunteers, elected officials, and others in the public.
- **Website:** <http://www.communityhlth.org/communityhlth/index.jsp>
- **Contact Person:** Jutka Mándoki, Program Coordinator
Mail: 180 Montgomery Street, Suite 1520, San Francisco, CA 94104
Email: jmandoki@aha.org
Phone: (415) 248-8408
Fax: (415) 296-0519

❖ *Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE):*

- **Location(s):** Washington, DC (HQ).
- **Mission Statement:** To provide leadership to the profession of health education and health promotion to contribute to the health of all people through advances in health education theory and research, excellence in health education practice, and the promotion of public policies conducive to health.
- **Additional Info:** SOPHE, founded in 1950, is an independent, international professional association made up of a diverse membership of health education professionals and students. The Society promotes healthy behaviors, healthy communities, and healthy environments through its membership, its network of local chapters, and its numerous partnerships with other organizations. With its primary focus on public health education, SOPHE provides leadership through a code of ethics, standard for professional preparation, research, and practice; professional development; and public outreach. SOPHE stimulates research on the theory and practice of health education, supports high quality performance standards for the practice of health education and health promotion, advocates policy and legislation affecting health education and health promotion, and develops and promotes standards for professional preparation of health education professionals.
- **Website:** <http://www.sophe.org/>
- **Contact Person:**
Mail: 750 First St. NE, Suite 910, Washington, DC 20002-4242
Email: info@sophe.org
Phone: (202) 408-9804
Fax: (202) 408-9815

❖ *National Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity (NAPPA):*

- **Location(s):** Washington, DC (HQ).
- **Mission Statement:** To unite the strengths of public, private, and industry efforts into collaborative partnerships that inspire and empower all Americans to lead more physically active lifestyles.
- **Additional Info:** NCPPA is a group of national organizations that independently address a host of issues pertaining to physical activity including health/science, education, environments, population specific outreach, and activity behavior. By building on existing relationships with health, fitness, sports, education, and worksite health promotion organizations in the public, private, and industry sectors, NCPPA is developing new alliances and partnerships to focus and coordinate public education campaigns, policy development, and media education. Its focus is to champion public

policies that reduce barriers to physical activity, increase the adoption of activity-friendly community models, promote incentives that result in greater adherence to recommended physical activity behaviors through community, schools, and worksite environments, and influence policy/environmental changes for populations with low rates of physical activity.

- **Website:** <http://www.ncppa.org/>
- **Contact Person:** Sheila Franklin, Communications & Marketing Manager
Mail: 1010 Massachusetts Ave., Suite 350, Washington, D.C. 20001
Email: sfranklin@ncppa.org
Phone: (202) 454-7521
Fax: (202) 454-7598